## State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, quality after-school programs and opportunities provide safe,

challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills; and

WHEREAS, after-school programs support working families by ensuring

children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

and

**WHEREAS**, after-school programs build stronger communities by involving

students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among

youth, families, and adults; and

WHEREAS, after-school programs engage families, schools and community

partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

**WHEREAS,** the state of Vermont has provided significant leadership in the area

of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality after-school programs

are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

**WHEREAS,** Lights on After School, the national celebration of after-school

programs, promotes the importance of quality after-school programs in the lives of children, families, and communities; and

**WHEREAS,** 19.4 million families report that they would enroll their child in an

after-school program if one were available; and

WHEREAS, many-after school programs across the country may be facing

funding shortfalls; and

**WHEREAS,** the state of Vermont is committed to investing in the health and

safety of all young Vermonters by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare

young people to compete in the global economy.

## KEEP THE LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of September, A.D. 2017.

Philip B. Scott Governor

Brittney **W**ilson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs